

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the entire “Disclosure of the Invention” section on page 3, continuing onto page 5 with the following amended section:

To solve the above problem, ~~an~~ the invention ~~of claim 1~~ is related to a serial configuration linear motor that is constituted of a plurality of movers, each of which is formed from an armature having a polyphase balancing winding, and a stator having a permanent magnet or a secondary conductor. The linear motor is characterized in that the plurality of movers are disposed on the single stator so as to face each other with a gap therebetween; and the polyphase balancing windings of the respective movers are connected in series.

~~An invention of claim 2 is the serial configuration linear motor defined in claim 1, The~~ invention is further characterized in that the plurality of movers are of a single configuration.

~~An invention of claim 3 is the serial configuration linear motor defined in claim 1 or 2, The invention is~~ further characterized in that connecting terminals are provided on front ends and rear ends of the movers, and multilayered winding terminals of a rear-end terminal in a final mover are short-circuited with each other (i.e., a neutral-point processing is applied thereto).

~~An invention of claim 4 is the serial configuration linear motor defined in claim 1 or 2, The invention is~~ further characterized in that, in a condition where the number of phases of each of the plurality of movers is set to three and the number of movers is set to an integral multiple of

three, phases of the respective movers are shifted from each other by 120° or 240° in electrical angle, and connecting terminals on the front ends and rear ends in the respective movers are connected while being shifted by 120° or 240°.

~~An invention of claim 5 is the serial configuration linear motor defined in claim 1 or 2,~~
The invention is further characterized in that a thermister is incorporated in each of the plurality of movers; and external terminals are provided on the front and rear ends of each of the movers so as to connect all the thermisters in series.

As described above, by virtue of disposing a plurality of movers on a single stator and connecting the polyphase balancing windings in the movers in series, the present invention provides a serial configuration linear motor which can drive a single moving member.

In addition, by virtue of series connection of the movers, generation of cyclic current in each of the movers, which is generated when the movers are connected in parallel and as a result of slight phase shifts, can be prevented; and an arrangement where linear movers having different thrust capacities are combined is enabled.